

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-11
AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 INR-10
NSAE-00 ICA-11 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02
LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-07 CEA-01
OIC-02 AGRE-00 DOE-15 SOE-02 OES-07 ITC-01
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 L-03 PA-01 /183 W
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R 192234Z MAY 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1459
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY PARIS

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USEEC

USOECD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIN, ECON, UN
SUBJECT: UN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (COW):CONCLUDING
PLENARY SESSION, MAY 13, 1978

REF: (A) USUN 1949; (B) USUN 1947

1. SUMMARY: AT CONCLUDING PLENARY EVENING SATURDAY MAY 13
CHAIRMEN OF SUB-GROUPS REPORTED ON STATUS OF PAPERS FOR
AGENDA ITEMS 1 THROUGH 4. UNTITLED PAPERS ON AGENDA ITEM 1
"GLOBAL INTERDEPENDENCE" AND AGENDA ITEMS 3 AND 4 "OVER-
SEEING AND MONITORING TO PROVIDE IMPETUS TO FACILITATE AND
EXPEDITE AGREEMENTS" WERE PRESENTED AS "CLEAN" PAPERS.
CHAIRMAN JAZAIRY REPORTED THAT PAPER ON AGENDA ITEM 2
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"TRANSFER OF RESOURCES IN REAL TERMS" WAS INCOMPLETE. HE
NOTED THAT ALL WORK THUS FAR DONE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS
"INPUT" FOR NEXT MEETING. NUMBER OF DELEGATIONS MADE STATE-
MENTS EXPRESSING DISAPPOINTMENT IN WAY IN WHICH COW EVOLVED
BUT ALL PRAISED COW CHAIRMAN JAZAIRY. PLENARY AGREED FORE-
GO JUNE COW MEETING AND HAVE FIRST SESSION RESUME FOR ONE
DAY AT NEXT SESSION OF COW WHICH WILL RUN FROM SEPT 5 TO

SEPT 15. END SUMMARY.

2. CONCLUDING PLENARY OF FIRST SESSION COW MET AT 8:30 PM SATURDAY, MAY 13. COW VICE CHAIRMAN ULRICHSEN OF DENMARK PROVIDED REPORT ON "FRIENDS OF RAPPORTEUR" PAPER ON AGENDA ITEM 1, "GLOBAL INTERDEPENDENCE." HE SAID HIS GROUP HAD COMPLETED ITS WORK AND DISTRIBUTED A "CLEAN" PAPER. AMBASSADOR ALBORNOZ, ECUADORIAN UN PERMREP WHO, AS COW VICE CHAIRMAN, CHAIRED "FRIENDS OF CHAIRMAN" GROUP FOR AGENDA ITEMS 3 AND 4, "OVERSEEING AND MONITORING," REVIEWED TEXT WHICH HE SAID HAD BEEN ACCEPTED BY ALL GROUPS. COW CHAIRMAN JAZAIRY REPORTED "FRIENDS OF THE CHAIRMAN" ON AGENDA ITEM 2, "TRANSFER OF RESOURCES," HAD LENGTHY DISCUSSIONS BUT ATTEMPTS AT AGREEMENT ON FINAL PAPER WERE INCONCLUSIVE.

3. JAZAIRY THEN REVIEWED DIFFERING PERCEPTIONS OF PURPOSE OF COW WHICH WERE MAJOR FACTOR IN FAILURE TO ACHIEVE AGREED PAPER. ALTERNATE APPROACHES INCLUDED A CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TO THE COW; AN AGREED REPORT OF THE COW ITSELF; OR A CHAIRMAN'S "SUMMING UP;" THUS THERE WAS NO MEETING OF MINDS AND DISCUSSIONS HAD BEEN SUSPENDED. JAZAIRY HAD THEREFORE CONCLUDED FROM DISCUSSIONS IN "FRIENDS OF CHAIRMAN" MEETINGS THIS FIRST SESSION OF COW WOULD ACTUALLY END ON FIRST DAY OF NEXT MEETING AND THAT BETWEEN NOW AND THEN THE BUREAU WOULD HOLD CONSULTATIONS PARTICULARLY WITH MISSIONS IN NEW YORK, AND "RESUMED SESSION" WOULD BE A "BRAIN-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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"STORMING SESSION" ON GLOBAL POLICY RELATIVE TO RESOURCE TRANSFERS. HE URGED THAT ALL PARTICIPANTS WORK HARD BETWEEN NOW AND THAT MEETING TO MAKE FINAL DAY OF PRESENT SESSION (SEPT 5) A SUCCESS SINCE FUTURE EFFECTIVENESS OF COW AS "FOCAL POINT FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ISSUES ON A VERY HIGH LEVEL" WAS AT STAKE. HE SAID THAT THE BUREAU WOULD WORK ON WORKING DRAFT FOR ITEM 2 TO INSURE THAT IT ADEQUATELY REFLECTS THE STATUS OF THE ISSUES INVOLVED AS OF SUSPENSION OF DISCUSSION.

4. JAZAIRY THEN TURNED TO AGENDA ITEM 5, DATE AND SUBJECTS FOR NEXT MEETING OF COW, NOTING THAT ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING IN JANUARY HAD TENTATIVELY SET JUNE 21 FOR NEXT 10-DAY MEETING AND A THIRD MEETING IN SEPT OF ABOUT TWO DAYS. HE OBSERVED THAT IN VIEW OF PREPARATION PROCESS AND TIME AVAILABLE BETWEEN NOW AND JUNE AND NEED TO MAKE A SUCCESS OF COW IT WAS HIS SUGGESTION THAT BOTH MEETINGS BE COMBINED INTO ONE SEPT 5 TO 15 SESSION DESPITE CONFLICT WITH TCDC MEETING IN ARGENTINA SCHEDULED TO END ON SEPT 12. TENTATIVELY AGREED AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING WAS: 1) MEASURES RELATIVE TO FOOD AND AGRICULTURE; 2) THE LIMA DECLARATION AND INDUSTRIALIZATION; AND 3)

PROBLEMS OF THE LEAST DEVELOPED, LANDLOCKED AND ISLAND NATIONS.

5. MILLS OF JAMAICA, SPEAKING FOR G-77, NOTED THAT THE 77 HAD DISCUSSED THE QUESTION OF TIMING AND STRONGLY BELIEVED THAT THERE SHOULD BE MORE THAN ONE MORE MEETING OF THE COW THIS YEAR. NONETHELESS, G-77 CONSIDERED REASONS FOR FORE-GOING THE JUNE MEETING WERE VALID AND SUGGESTED SUPPORT OF CHAIRMAN'S PROPOSAL, ADDING IT IMPORTANT THAT SEPT MEETING COMPLETE ITS WORK SO THAT COW COULD SEND REPORT TO UNGA. A BRIEF DISCUSSION ENSUED INCLUDING QUESTION IF REPORT WOULD BE SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEM FOR SEPT MEETING. IT WAS AGREED THAT IT WOULD BE. QUESTION OF "PHASES" OF NEXT MEETING I.E., AT WHAT STAGE TOP-LEVEL REPRESENTATIVES WOULD BE DESIRABLE) WOULD BE RESOLVED DURING SUMMER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TATION WOULD BE DESIRABLE) WOULD BE RESOLVED DURING SUMMER

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
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CONSULTATIONS. JAZAIRY OBSERVED THAT SINCE THIS WAS NOT THE CLOSING PLENARY OF FIRST COW SESSION THERE WOULD BE NO FORMAL CLOSING SPEECH ON HIS PART BUT HE DID EXPRESS APPRECIATION FOR COOPERATION OF ALL DELEGATIONS, THE BUREAU AND SPECIFICALLY TO USYG RIPERT. HE ALSO SAID THAT COW HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO BECOME A FOCAL POINT OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND A FORUM FOR GLOBAL POLICY ORIENTATION.

6. MILLS, REPLYING FOR 77, OBSERVED THAT: TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF WORK HAD BEEN DONE, PARTICULARLY BY MINISTERS AND SENIOR OFFICIALS; G-77 SAW THE NEED FOR COW AS MEANS OF BRINGING CLOSER COHESION TO WORK OF UN SYSTEM ON RESTRUCTURING GLOBAL ECONOMIC SYSTEM; G-77 HOPED FOR A NEW IMPETUS AND SPIRIT AND EXERCISE OF POLITICAL INFLUENCE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ON MAJOR ECONOMIC ISSUES; DESPITE DIFFERING VIEWS ON PURPOSE AND ROLE OF COW THERE HAD BEEN CLOSE G-77 COLLABORATION WITH THEIR COLLEAGUES IN GENEVA AND UNCTAD SECRETARIAT; AND THERE WAS DEEP DISAPPOINTMENT ABOUT FAILURE OF COW TO ACHIEVE AGREEMENT ON MAJOR ISSUES INVOLVED IN THE TRANSFER OF RESOURCES. HE SAID A NUMBER OF FACTORS CONTRIBUTED TO FAILURE BUT MAIN ONE WAS LACK OF POLITICAL WILL. MILLS OBSERVED HE HAD THOUGHT THERE WAS A "NEW PRESCRIPTION" WHICH WOULD LEAD TO THE ACCEPTANCE OF NEED FOR FUNDAMENTAL RESTRUCTURING OF GLOBAL ECONOMIC SYSTEM WHICH WOULD ESTABLISH THE NIEO, ADDING THAT COW MIGHT "MISS OPPORTUNITY" AT A CRITICAL TIME IN THE AFFAIRS OF THE WORLD. HE SAID THE G-77 LOOKED FORWARD TO SEPT MEETING AND AGENDA ITEM 2 TEXT WHICH HE WAS CERTAIN COULD BE AGREED UPON BUT THAT NOT EVERYONE WOULD BE COMPLETELY HAPPY WITH IT. MILLS CONCLUDED BY ACKNOWLEDGING THAT MINISTERS HAD COME FROM MANY OF THE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES AND FEW HAD COME FROM DEVELOPING NATIONS, ADDING HE HOPED AT SEPT MEETING BOTH GROUPS WOULD BE REPRESENTED BY HIGH-LEVEL POLICY OFFICIALS.

7. THERE FOLLOWED A CLASSIC EXCHANGE BETWEEN CHINA AND THE SOVIET UNION. US AMB WELLS EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR FINE LEADERSHIP ROLE PLAYED BY JAZAIRY. SHE NOTED THAT MEETING WAS DEALING WITH SOME OF THE MOST COMPLEX PROBLEMS WE FACE AND THAT COMPLEXITY WAS COMPOUNDED BY THE VERY NEWNESS OF THE COMMITTEE AND THE PROCESS WE WERE TRYING TO ESTABLISH. HENCE, IT WAS NOT SURPRISING THAT MEETING HAD BEEN ONLY PARTIALLY SUCCESSFUL (HIGH QUALITY OF WIDE-RANGING DISCUSSIONS DURING FIRST PHASE OF MEETING HAD ALREADY BEEN CITED). WELLS SAID THAT US WOULD WORK WITH CHAIRMAN AND OTHER DELEGATIONS TO FOCUS ISSUES AND DEFINE

PROCEDURES IN ORDER TO HELP COMMITTEE REALIZE ITS POTENTIAL.
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JAPANESE SAID THEY HAD HOPED FOR A NEW APPROACH TO SERIOUS
LDC PROBLEMS BY THE LDC'S AND EXPRESSED BITTER
DISAPPOINTMENT ABOUT WAY IN WHICH WORK OF COW DEVELOPED,
COMMENTING THERE HAD BEEN NO REAL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS BETWEEN
HIGH OFFICIALS FROM CAPITALS.

8. COMMENT: TWELVE DAYS OF EXTREMELY ARDUOUS WORK HAS
RESULTED IN MIXED FEELINGS ON PART OF US DELEGATION.
PERCEPTION OF INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES, INCLUDING US, THAT
COW OFFERED REAL OPPORTUNITY FOR IN DEPTH REVIEW OF
SERIOUS INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ISSUES DURING WHICH ALL
PARTIES WOULD HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN SIGNIFICANT NEW
INSIGHTS INTO ONE ANOTHER'S PROBLEMS CAME UP AGAINST G-77
BASIC POSITION THAT MULTILATERAL MEETINGS ON ECONOMIC
ISSUES MUST RESULT IN A DOCUMENT WHICH INCLUDES CONCRETE
COMMITMENTS ON PART OF INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES TO PROVIDE
EITHER RESOURCES OR PROCEDURES WHICH WOULD LEAD TO GREATER
ACCESS TO RESOURCES FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. RECONCILIA-
TION OF VARYING PERCEPTIONS OF OBJECTIVES OF COMMITTEE MUST
BE WORKED OUT IF SEPT SESSION OF COW IS TO BE A SUCCESS.

AFTER CONCLUSION SATURDAY NIGHT MEETING, MILLS TOLD WELLS
HOW DEEPLY DISAPPOINTED HE HAD BEEN AT LACK OF LDC HIGH-
LEVEL REPRESENTATION. MILLS ASKED WHETHER USG COULD
GO TO KEY LDC CAPITALS AND URGE SUCH ATTENDANCE AT NEXT
MEETING. NIGERIAN, IRANIAN AND ECUADORIAN DELEGATES
INDIVIDUALLY COMMENTED TO WELLS THAT G-77 COULD
NOT CONTINUE TO WORK AS A GROUP AS IT HAD DURING OVERVIEW
MEETING. IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER ANY SALUTORY
LESSONS IN GROUP DYNAMICS HAVE BEEN LEARNED BY G-77. THUS
FAR ALL COMMENTS FROM LDC DELEGATES ON US PARTICIPATION IN
MEETING HAVE BEEN FAVORABLE. USUN WILL DO ADDITIONAL
ASSESSMENT IN ABOUT TEN DAYS WHEN DUST HAS SETTLED.

LEONARD

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Message Attributes

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